Save on your grocery shopping

Look inside today's paper for coupons, fliers and other great savings

ALDI · Hiller's · Higher Standards meijer Lower Prices · SmartSource Magazine · BUSCH'S Fresh Food Market

Circulars are distributed in select zip codes of Washtenaw and southern Livingston counties

Lima Township

Veterans scour cemetery for Civil War graves

PAGE 3

Anniversary, birth, engagement announcements

PAGE 2

Faces in the crowd

2011 Deals of the Year awards honor business

PAGE 4

ANN ARBOR.com

Sunday

November 13, 2011

YPSILANTI FOCUS

WITH MILESTONES

To subscribe to the Sunday and Thursday print editions of AnnArbor.com call 734-926-4555 or 888-922-2472.

Ypsilanti This Week

MUSIC

EMU holds Concerto and Aria Competition today

There will be a "Concerto and Aria Competition" at Pease Auditorium 1 to 6 p.m. today. EMU undergraduate and graduate students will compete for the honor of performing a concerto or aria with the Symphony Orchestra during the winter semester. Free. College Place and West Cross Street. 734-487-1849.

COMEDY

Brand brings comedy act to EMU Wednesday

"Get Him to the Greek" star Russell Brand will bring his own British brand of comedy to the EMU Convocation Center stage 8 p.m. Wednesday. Brand got his start as a stand-up comedian in the U.K. He broke through to the U.S. after playing Aldous Snow in the movie "Forgetting Sarah Marshall." He has written two memoirs detailing his addictions to drugs and alcohol. $23 to $45. Tickets will be available online at www.emutix.com or by phone at 734-487-2282. The EMUCC is at 799 N. Hewitt Road.

CRAFTS

St. Joseph Catholic Church holds craft show

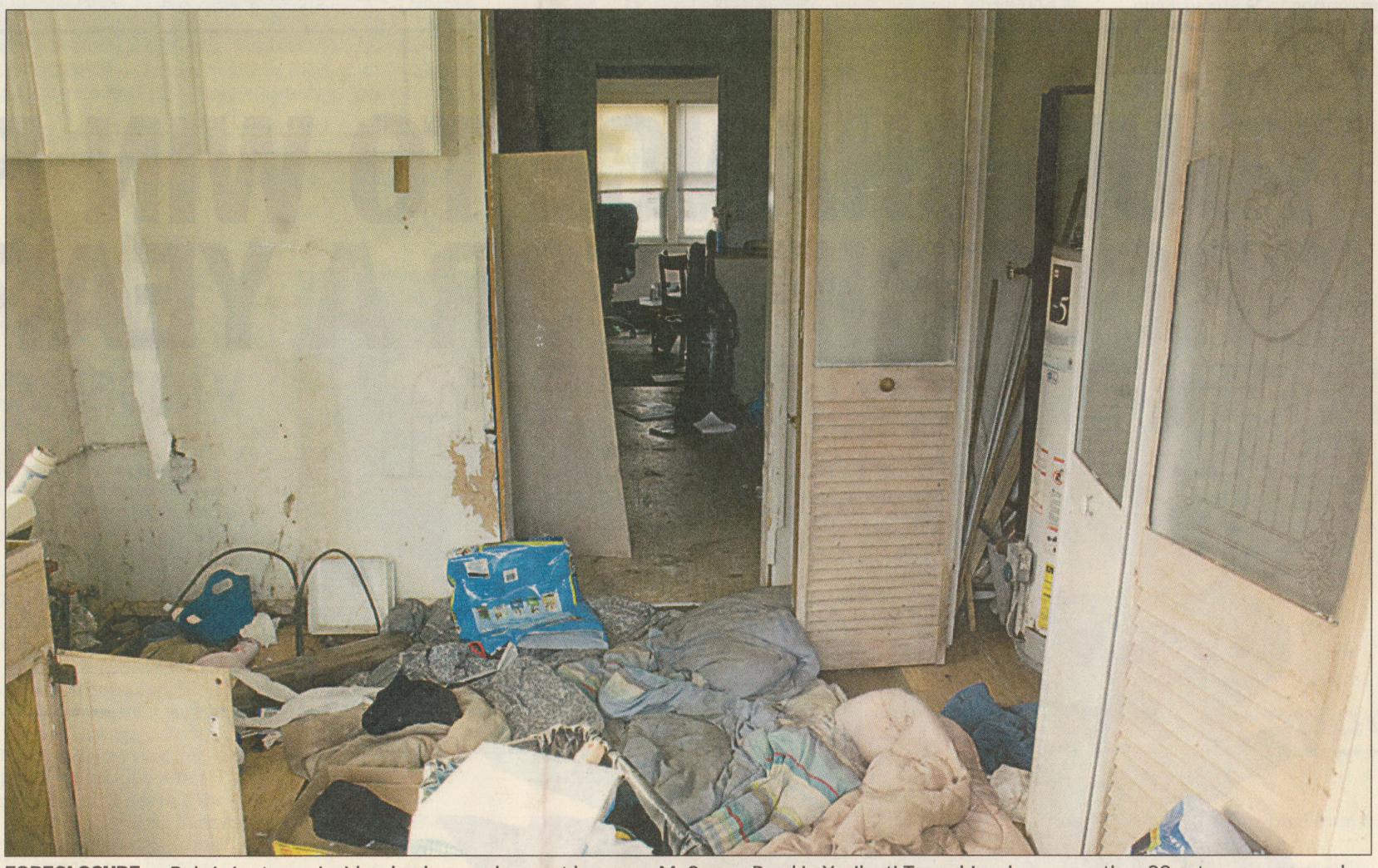
The St. Joseph Catholic Church will have a "Craft Show" 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Every year, you tell yourself you need to start Christmas shopping earlier. Here's your chance. There will be a luncheon and a bake sale. Free admission. The church is at 9425 Whittaker Road. 734-461-6555.

MUSIC

The Met: Satyagraha plays Saturday

See "The Met: Live in HD series: Satyagraha" at Rave Ann Arbor 20 on Saturday. Richard Croft reprises his acclaimed interpretation of Gandhi in Philip Glass's unforgettable opera. Tickets are available at participating theater box offices and online at www.FathomEvents.com. Ticket prices vary by location. Rave is at 4100 Carpenter Road. 734-973-4823.

30 CATS, OTHER ANIMALS TAKEN FROM FORECLOSED HOME



FORECLOSURE — Debris is strewn inside a bank-owned, vacant house on McGregor Road in Ypsilanti Township where more than 30 cats were removed. **Tom Perkins | For AnnArbor.com**

Nipping problems in the bud

Township officials hope proposed vacant home ordinance will prevent neglected foreclosed homes

BY TOM PERKINS
For AnnArbor.com

For the second time in recent weeks, the Humane Society of Huron Valley has had to pull more than 30 cats, several dogs and other assorted wildlife out of a foreclosed Ypsilanti Township home owned by an out-of-town bank.

The home is packed with debris, the floor is covered in animal feces and saturated with urine and the stench is noticeable outside the home.

It's the latest example of why township officials are pursuing a new vacant home ordinance, they said as they described the proposed program.

The house, at 2149 McGregor Road, also is full of a variety of code violations, township officials said. A similar situation was found last month at a bank-owned vacant home at 1240 Davis St. in Ypsilanti Township.

Officials said the house on McGregor Road has been owned since July 7 by Irving, Texas-based CitiMortgage, Inc., which has failed to secure it and isn't responding to township correspondence.

Township attorneys received approval to take legal action at the Board of Trustee's meeting Nov. 1.

But prior to the board approving legal action against CitiMortgage, officials discussed a proposed new ordinance intended to help address deterioration in neighborhoods by nipping such problems in the bud.

Ypsilanti Township has a high foreclosure rate and a steady stream of stories about neglected and abandoned properties posing serious heath risks to neighbors in recent years.

The ordinance would require owners of properties vacant for 30 days to register the homes or businesses with the township and allow township officials to inspect them. The township's office of community standards would keep a registry of vacant properties and officials would visit them annually.

Mike Radzik, director of the office of community standards, said the ordinance will decrease the number of seriously blighted fore-

See **VACANT**, Page 3

Wolverine Grill closes, new owners sought

BY LIZZY ALFS
lizzyalfs@annarbor.com

The Wolverine Grill, a longtime Ypsilanti restaurant on West Michigan Avenue, closed its doors Oct. 19, and now the restaurant is listed for sale.

Both the 5,000-square-foot building and the restaurant are listed with Tom Stachler of Real Estate One for $189,000.

There are two apartments and an office above the restaurant, which is located at 228 W. Michigan Ave.

The listing markets the property as a "great opportunity" to purchase income property and own a business.

The Wolverine has been located on West Michigan Avenue since the 1930s. Greg Batianis has owned the restaurant since 1963.

Batianis retired in 2008, and his daughter, Debbie, has been operating the restaurant. Because of health complications, the family had to close the business Oct. 19, Stachler said.

"It's temporarily closed until we can find someone else to take over the business," he said.

Stachler said someone can purchase just the restaurant, or the building as well.

He said he's been receiving interest in the property, and the goal is to reopen the restaurant within the next 30 days.

"We've had a good deal of interest from other folks that either are in the restaurant business or would like to get into the restaurant business," he said. "The discussions are ongoing with a few interested parties."

Join the conversation about this story online at AnnArbor.com/nws/Ypsilanti/. Reach reporter Lizzy Alfs at 734-623-2584 or lizzyalfs@annarbor.com.

Cracker pie, Kresge and Comet: A history of coffee in Washtenaw

BY JESSICA LEVINE
AnnArbor.com contributor

Few things transcend cuisines, cultures and centuries like coffee.

What began in Arabia as a broth of dried seeds — the drink of Muslims in North Africa, India and the Mediterranean — today exists as another empire, one that has changed our entire social experience.

Coffee no longer is solely the province of Islamic worshippers: It is the thing we nervously (and blessedly) clasp on first dates, the Grande vessel we use to steer through packed herds on crosswalks and the bean we crystallize for alien desserts.

Coffee in our community is likewise full-bodied. The crimson berries plucked from cloudy rainforest canopies make their way here by way of burlap sacks and traders' tastes for the exotic. From Istanbul to London, from Paris to America's first coffee house opened in 1678, featuring drinks called "Coffee Chocolatta" and "Syder," the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor area has successfully made the drink of the world into something uniquely Midwestern.

A taste:

Ypsilanti, 1883 — Cooking

As recorded by the Ypsilanti Historical Museum, the ladies of Chapel Guild (St. Luke's Episcopal Church) created a cookbook that included a British dessert recipe for cracker pie with coffee as an essential ingredient.

With the additions of raisins, currants, apples, sugar, molasses, nutmeg and cinnamon to the recipe, it can be reasonably surmised that coffee was added to counteract these ingredients' sweetness. Esther Sung of "Epicurious" confirms this strategy and writes, "Coffee's roasted quality, bitterness, and acidity make it a perfect complement to sweet, bold, earthy, or nutty ingredients, ultimately yielding a taste combination that is surprisingly complex."

Coffee jelly, coffee cake and coffee cream also were commonplace at the time.

Ypsilanti, 1924 — Conviviality

Today, the guys meet at Tim Horton's. Back in 1924, however, it is believed that the Ypsilanti Men's Morning Coffee Group convened at the now-closed Huron Hotel. A band of almost 40 people, the Coffee Group still meets for

See **COFFEE**, Page 3

DURING THE 1970S — You could grab a cup of coffee at the lunch counter at the S.S. Kresge dime store at the corner of South State Street and North University Avenue, now the home of Michigan Book & Supply. **Photo courtesy of Ann Arbor District Library**

ANN ARBOR.COM

MILESTONES

Engagements

Goronzy - Spencer

Dawn M. Goronzy, daughter of Judith and Daniel Goronzy of Dublin, Ohio and Robert W. Spencer, Jr., son of Elizabeth and Robert Spencer of Powell, Ohio, have announced their engagement. The couple, both Saline, Michigan residents, have set a December wedding date, with the ceremony and reception to be held at Brookside Country Club in Columbus. The bride-to-be graduated from Kettering Fairmont High School in Dayton, Ohio and Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. She is an international marketing coordinator at Domino's Pizza headquarters in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The future groom graduated from Worthington High School in Worthington, Ohio, The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, and University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. He is an attorney at Dana Holding Corporation in Maumee, Ohio.

Engagements

Golen - Polaczyk

Together with their parents, Joshua Polaczyk and Emily Golen are excited to announce their recent engagement. Both are 2005 graduates of Huron High School. Emily is graduate of the University of Michigan and is currently teaching high school social studies in Brighton. Joshua is completing a nursing degree in Ann Arbor. The couple is planning a June 2012 wedding.

Birthday

Please join us for a
90th Birthday Celebration
Honoring
Robert and Olivia Prieskorn

Sunday, November 20,
3:00-5:30
St. Thomas the Apostle Church
530 Elizabeth St., Ann
Arbor, MI 48104
No Gifts Please

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN FREE GROCERIES FOR A YEAR!
START CLICKING.

$30,000 GROCERY GIVEAWAY

Your chance to win $10, $100, $250, or $10,000 worth of groceries.* Play the $30,000 Grocery Giveaway in our new Food & Grocery section today. Each day, you have the chance to win $10 or $100 in free groceries from your favorite grocery store. And each week watch for the $250 bonus day. Each time you play, you're entered into the grand prize drawing for a year's worth of FREE groceries from your favorite Ann Arbor-area grocery store, valued at $10,000.

Play today and every day at AnnArbor.com/food.

ARBOR FARMS MARKET · Country Market · Hiller's · Kroger · Higher Standards meijer Lower Prices

*Awarded in the form of gift cards. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open only to legal residents OF SELECT SOUTHEASTERN MI ZIP CODES who are at least 18 years old at the time of entry. VOID OUTSIDE MI AND WHERE PROHIBITED. Promotion begins 12:01 AM ET 8/15/11 and ends 11:59 PM ET 12/18/11. Odds of winning the grand prize depend on the number of entries received. Odds of winning an Instant Win Game depend on the number of Instant Win game prizes available divided by the number of eligible Instant Win Game plays. For Official Rules, and a complete list of eligible zip codes, visit grocerygiveaway.annarbor.com. ARV of 1 grand prize: $10,000; 18 first prizes: $250 each; 108 second prizes: $100 each; and 1,134 third prizes: $10 each. Sponsor: AnnArbor.com, 301 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

KNOW+TELL

ANN ARBOR.COM

YPSILANTI FOCUS

Salad bar raising healthy options at Adams Academy

BY EMMA JACKSON
Ypsilanti Public Schools

Fresh fruits and vegetables — in some cases straight from the farm — are options now available to students at Adams STEM Academy, thanks to an astute staff member and a collaborative effort.

A salad bar, stocked with romaine and iceberg lettuce, fresh veggies and fruit, was made possible through the Let's Move Salad Bars to Schools initiative (saladbars2schools.org/).

A Whole Foods cashier asked Molly Weber, a speech therapist at Adams Academy, to donate a dollar to support the Great Salad Bar Project. She was told that donations were helping toward the purchase of salad bars for local schools.

Weber inquired about eligibility requirements and then promptly filled out a grant application. The school was awarded the grant and the salad bar, with chillers, is now a welcome addition to the lunchroom.

HEALTHY LUNCH — Adams Academy third-grader Alexus Grissom-Hunter adds salad to her plate during a recent school day. **Photo courtesy of Ypsilanti Public Schools**

Kathy Wright, director of Food Services at Ypsilanti Public Schools, said the salad bar fit in with Chartwells' objective to provide healthy, diverse meal choices for students.

"I had already been having discussions with (school principal) Dr. Thompson about implementing a salad bar to offer fresh fruits and vegetables to students," Wright said. "This salad bar is the right height for younger students and is about a $2,500 value, which was a nice savings for the district."

Principal Connie Thompson said she is pleased to have the salad bar as part of their lunchroom fare.

"The salad bar is a great addition and has provided an opportunity for students to try different foods," Thompson said. "Every day they are eating lots of fruits and veggies, and I believe the healthy choices will affect their physical development and academic growth."

When the salad bar was delivered to Adams in the spring of 2011, Weber organized an orientation so that students would know the proper way to use the salad bar.

"I knew some of our students had not been around a salad bar and that it was important to teach them the proper etiquette and introduce them to the type of foods they might expect to see on the salad bar," said Weber. "The students have really enjoyed the choices and in many ways it feels more grown up to have options."

Cucumbers, pears with strawberries, carrots, zucchini coins, apples, seasonal fruits and vegetables plus leafy, green salads, are popular with students.

Wright said the effort to prepare and stock the salad bar is worthwhile.

"We are happy to be a part of promoting healthy eating," Wright said.

"We offer a nice variety and students may eat as much as they care to eat. Their plates are full and they are eating what's on their plate."

Emma Jackson is director of public relations the Ypsilanti Public Schools.

Open houses shows off Mott's new facility

BY KELLIE WOODHOUSE
kelliewoodhouse@annarbor.com

As Amber Parker toured the new C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women's Hospital, her daughter was hooked up to an oxygen tube 800 feet away on the sixth floor of the current Mott facility.

Six-month-old Avery Parker has spina bifida. Because of the disorder, Avery has an abnormal amount of pressure on her brain stem.

Avery spent the first five weeks of her life at Mott's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Because of complications with her disorder, Avery is back at Mott and her doctors are contemplating surgery.

If surgery is inevitable, Parker hopes it will take place in University of Michigan's new $754 million, 1.1 million-square-foot children's hospital, where her fragile daughter could benefit from one of 16 state-of-the-art operating rooms and one of 348 single-occupancy rooms.

Parker toured the new facility, which opens Dec. 4, during a public open house last Sunday.

"This is going to be awesome," Parker said. "There's not going to be any interruption between you and your child."

That's a stark difference from the current 42-year-old Mott facility, where Avery shared a large room with several other sick infants, her only privacy a curtain.

"There was no privacy. It was hard to nurse," Parker said. Parker spent most nights with her daughter, sleeping in a chair.

"They're like tiny little cubicles," Parker said of the space.

"It's depressing; it's like a shoe box."

Each patient at the new Mott facility, from newborns to sick toddlers to birthing mothers, will have his or her own room, following an industry-wide trend that is reported to improve patient outcomes and comfort. The new rooms have large windows, couches, recliners, computers and flat-screen TVs.

"It was too crowded. There was no chance for rest. People were in and out," recalls Missy Davert, whose two children have a brittle bone condition that requires constant surgeries and hospitalization.

During a recent stay, her daughter, 13, shared a room with two other children. "We had as many as five, six parents in the room at the same time."

The new 12-story hospital, located at East Medical Center Drive, spans the length of two football fields. It increases capacity by 75 percent, which makes it the largest of Michigan's three children's hospitals.

"It's not a scary place to go," said Kelly Patrick, who gave birth to her daughter Annie at Mott last year.

"It's shinier, more comfortable and a little more open," she said. That brightness is intentional.

The facility is decorated with an eye toward children, hospital officials say. Fluttering butterfly sculptures and building blocks adorn the main entry area, patient artwork is displayed throughout almost every corridor and furniture is upholstered in bright reds and yellows.

"A long time ago it was only about function," said Sachi Turnbull, who helped choose the furnishings. "But now they realize that when families do stay, it's not just parents, but grandparents. It's not just a night stay, but many times it's months and months.."

And all of Mott's trimmings — a football-themed playroom, room nameplates that patients can decorate — are intended to make it a little easier on families and patients. "You never want to come here, you have to come here," Davert said. "But if you have to do come, this is the best place."

SEARCH FOR GRAVES — From left, Bill Eaton, Michael Christiaens, Dan Benfield, Mike Van Wasshnova, Bill Spear and William McAfee, members of Camp No. 180 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. **Lisa Allmendinger | AnnArbor.com**

Veterans search for Civil War graves

BY LISA ALLMENDINGER
lisaallmendinger@annarbor.com

A small cemetery in Lima Township was the site of a recent extensive search for Civil War veterans.

Six members of Camp No. 180 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War slowly walked from grave to grave looking for birth and death dates on the tombstones that ranged from 1810-1850.

And when they had a hard time reading the old headstones, the Sons of Union Veterans covered the stone surfaces with brightly colored chalk, and then made a rubbing on special paper to bring out the details.

Michael Christiaens of Saline, the National Graves Registration Officer of Camp No. 180, served as the commanding officer during the search where as many as a dozen or more Civil War veterans' graves were expected to be found.

He said the camp members have been making trips to Washtenaw County cemeteries and logging their finds as part of a national graves registration project, which has been taking place throughout the country for the past 10 years.

Armed with maps and forms listing gravesites, the camp members spread out in pairs and mark the graves they find, logging names, dates and GPS coordinates.

"Each one will go into a national registry," he said.

All of the camp members can trace their genealogy back to Civil War veterans, and hope to find every soldier in Washtenaw County who served in the Civil War.

Along the way, they also are finding names of soldiers from other parts in the United States as well, said Bill Eaton, commander of the camp No. 180.

For instance, Dan Benfield of Ypsilanti Township said his mother had the discharge papers for Peter Perkins of Company L, 13th Illinois cavalry, who is a relative on his great-grandmother's side of the family.

"They are a little worn, and I even have the tube the papers were mailed in," Benfield said.

Mike Van Wasshnova, also of Ypsilanti Township, said he started doing genealogy in 1980 and found a Civil War veteran, Thomas Lamirand, a great grandfather, on his father's's side of the family.

Both Ypsilanti men are veterans as well. Benfield is a 25-veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard and the Navy, while Van Wasshnova served in the Army in Vietnam.

Bill Speer, of Chelsea, who now lives in Ann Arbor, said he had two great grandfathers who fought in the Civil War as did Bill McAfee of Milan.

All of the men said they enjoy locating the graves and have taken an avid interest in the Civil War.

It's estimated that there were 92,000 soldiers from Michigan who served in the Civil War, McAfee said.

There are 24 camps in the State of Michigan, said McAfee, a founding member of Camp No. 180. The camp was chartered June 27, 1999, and installed at the Dexter Historical Museum on Aug. 28, 1999.

"Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180 was so-named by the charter members to show that it represents all of Washtenaw County," he said.

The name was taken from Carpenter Post No. 180 in Ypsilanti and Welch Post No. 137 in Ann Arbor.

The Carpenter Post was originally named for two Carpenter brothers from Ypsilanti, who never returned from the war he said.

"We are certain that one was John H., a corporal in Co. H, 14th Michigan Infantry, who was killed in action near Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 7, 1864 and buried in the National Cemetery, Marietta, Ga."

The Welch Post was named in memory of Col. Norval E. Welch, an attorney and University of Michigan alumnus who overstayed his enlistment and was killed in action near Poplar Grove Church, Va., Sept. 30, 1864. He is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Ann Arbor, McAfee said.

There are 109 registered cemeteries in Washtenaw County, McAfee said, and the men plan to search each one as part of the National Graves Registration Project, which was established in 1996.

According to information about the project, hundreds of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have devoted thousands of hours to visiting cemeteries, recording, verifying, researching and entering the final resting places of Civil War veterans, according to the group's website (www.suvcwmi.org/camps/camp180.php)..

It is estimated there are between 4.2 and 4.8 million Union Civil War Veterans, the website states.

"Due to mass burials, unreported battlefield losses, burials at sea and other circumstances, we can never expect to register all Union graves, but with your assistance we will succeed in honoring the 'boys in blue' to the best of our ability."

McAfee said, there were about 92,000 soldiers from Michigan and among the home states of soldiers they've found are veterans from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The National Graves Registration Database was activated February 22, 2005.

Vacant homes negatively affect neighbors' property value

Continues from 1

closed properties by bringing them to officials' attention much sooner.

"We've had so many cases where we become aware of an abandoned home after the electricity's shut off so the sump pump isn't working and the basement is now a swimming pool," Radzik said. "There will be the mold, the odor, the rodents and animals wll have taken over the house.

"With this ordinance, we can get in there and monitor the houses so they don't get to that point," he said. "In the long run, hopefully, it will reduce our nuisance properties and costs."

The office of community standards is working with the civil division of the sheriff's department to identify homes as they're foreclosed and purchased. Radzik said the sheriff's office holds a foreclosure auction each Thursday and can provide township officials with a list of recently foreclosed homes and their owners.

That means the township could know within a matter of hours when a home is foreclosed and purchased instead of months or years.

One of the driving issues behind exploring the ordinance is the strain on township resources. When a nuisance property is brought to the township's attention because, for example, the cockroach infestation and mold odors from an abandoned home are spilling over into neighboring properties, the township must act quickly.

In most serious cases like these, the owner, whether it is a bank or individual, is unresponsive. The township must pay their attorneys to take legal action, pay to have a local company to secure the home, pay for a title search and pay up front to fix the problems.

Often times a lien is placed on the homes, though not all costs are recovered. Radzik estimated the cost of securing a house on Davis Street and clearing it of 50 cats cost the township as much as $10,000 several weeks ago.

He said that is about average for a blighted property in Ypsilanti Township, and they see new properties weekly.

In the most severe cases, the township has spent up to $40,000 to abate a nuisance property that posed a serious health risk to neighbors.

If a house needs to be demolished, that can run between $15,000 and $25,000, though funds can often be recouped.

Neighbors also suffer financially because their home values are significantly impacted by blighted homes.

"It's not fair to homeowners when speculators come in and say 'Why should I pay you market value when the neighbor's house is overrun by vermin, cats, dogs, cockroaches and everything else?'" township attorney Dough Winters said. "It affects property values when the home is boarded and looking like the Addams Family house."

Once the sheriff's office alerts the township to the foreclosed properties, officials would then contact the new owner, which is a bank or mortgage company in most cases, and notify them of the ordinance requiring the home to be registered. If a bank ignores the notification, then Winters said officials can assess the situation and issue a civil infraction handled in district court.

A lien would be placed on the property to cover the the costs associated with mowing the lawns, securing the house and going to court, if the owner fails to appear. In the case of a home that might have more serious issues, the township can obtain an administrative search warrant and proceed in Washtenaw County Circuit Court.

Winters blasted the banks and federal government, which owns mortgage underwriters Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. He said the township has "sued every bank in the country at this point."

"This is another tool in our arsenal of weapons helping us stabilize neighborhoods," he said. "The biggest investment people make is their homes. If you have one home that went bad on the street it's like a cancer, and you can lose an entire street if you don't act quickly, so we have to do what we can to prevent a cancer from spreading."

Supervisor Brenda Stumbo said she supported the ordinance and called it an effective measure in getting ahead of the blight related issues stemming from foreclosures.

She also expressed frustration with the banks for neglecting properties and saddling the township with responsibility for maintaining and cleaning up the homes.

"The banks, mortgage companies and federal government do not care what havoc they have created bringing down the stability of neighborhoods that require local taxpayers to fund circuit court action," Stumbo said. "Our goal is to get cooperation from these institutions by having them be part of the process and holding them accountable.

"They received a huge bailout and local governments continue to take care of their property and their problems with local taxpayer money."

ANN ARBOR.com

Sunday
November 13, 2011

FACES IN THE CROWD

Deals of the Year

PHOTOS BY JEFF SAINLAR | FOR ANNARBOR.COM

The 2011 Deals of the Year awards banquet was held Nov. 4 at Eastern Michigan University's Student Center. The annual event, sponsored by AnnArbor.com Business Review, honors the best and most significant business deals and transactions of the past 12 months.

1

2

3

4

5

6

16

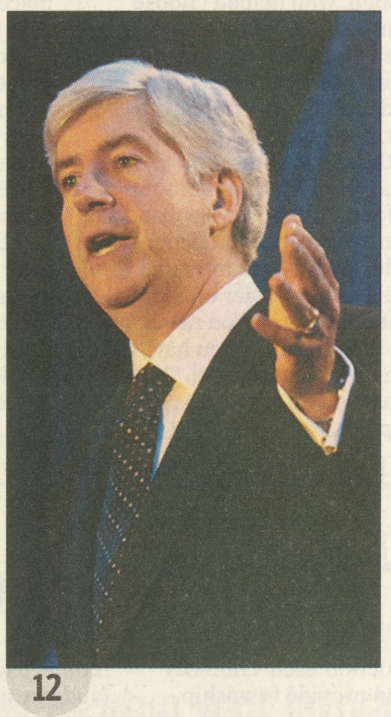
7

8

9

10

11



12

13

14

15

Captions

1 Elizabeth Parkinson talks with other guests.

2 David Behen talks with other guests.

3 Winners of Spark FastTrack awards line up.

4 AnnArbor.com CEO Matt Kraner speaks during the banquet.

5 Hans Steiner, right, and Joe Formicola pose with their Spark FastTrack three-year award.

6 Jennifer and Robert Anderson at the banquet.

7 Larry Freed accepts the award for Company of the Year.

8 ForeSee CEO Larry Freed, right, and other ForeSee employees collect the company's Ann Arbor SPARK FastTrack award.

9 Michigan Economic Development CEO Michael Finney introduces Gov. Rick Snyder.

10 Comcast Vice President for Business Services Jeff Freyer speaks.

11 AnnArbor.com business reporter Lizzy Alfs, Colliers International broker Brendan Cavender and Kathy Brzoznowski network.

12 Gov. Rick Snyder speaks at the Deals of the Year awards banquet.

13 The executive and company of the year awards are displayed at the Deals of the Year awards banquet.

14 Dr. Ora Pescovitz, left, accepts the University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital construction and development award from Cheryl Elliot.

15 Lucy Ann Lance and Nathan Bomey host the awards ceremony.

16 Power Marketing and Research owner Debra Power collects the Ann Arbor SPARK FastTrack award.

If you have an idea for an event you think would make a good subject for a Faces in the Crowd photo essay, contact AnnArbor.com Print Director Steve Pepple at stevepepple@annarbor.com or at 734-623-2523.